

ABSTRACT

A device for retracting gingival tissue away from a tooth comprising a preformed integral closed loop of material sized and dimensioned to be packed into a sulcus associated with the tooth, the closed loop having an inner surface suitable for placement against the at least one tooth and an outer surface suitable for placement against gingival tissue. The loop is preferably deformably rigid, extensible and non-elastic. The material is preferably compressible and absorbent. The device may also comprise several such loops linked together at their periphery to form a unitary structure. A method of use these devices is also disclosed.